FRENCH CLOSING IN SOUTH OF SOMME

Advance Lines to Within Five **Hundred Yards of Important** Town.

LONDON, Oct. 12.-In five British raids near Messines, Wood and Haisenes, German prisoners were taken and casualties inflicted on the enemy, General Haig reported today. No important actions occurred on the Somme front during the night.

By HENRY WOOD. WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES SOUTH OF THE SOMME, Oct. 12.-Drawing their encircling noose in from the west, north, and southwest, the French have advanced their lines at several points to within a few hundred yards of the important town of

aced by the French advance on Tuesday when German positions were taken on a three-mile front. The French are pocketing it in the same manner in which the allies drove the Germans out of Combles.

Chaulnes, to a certain extent, holds the same important relation to the German line south of the Somme, as did Combles north of the river. It is a point of support, the junction several important highways and its capture will enable the French dominate the surrounding country for several miles.

Aerial torpedoes and secretly-dug trenches gave wonderful aid to the French in their movement to encircle Chaulnes. On Monday I visited the first line trenches near Denlecourt (three miles northeast of Chaulnes) to watch preparations for the great at-tack launched on Tuesday. The French were secretly digging a new trench, running parallel to the German posi-

It was from this trench that French infantry was destined to make the attack, thus reducing the width of the fire-zone it was necessary for the soldiers to cross before reaching the Ger-

while the usual terrific artillery preparation was going on the French were systematically destroying the German wire entanglements with their new serial torpedoes. These they launched from little trench mortars.

Torpedoes Wreak Destruction. Unlike the screaming, whistling of the shells, the passage of these tor pedoes is noiseless, but they are visible pedces is noiseless, but they are visible to the naked eye throughout their entire course. They described beautiful arches above the French line, then daried downward with lightning-like rapidity into the German trench. The havoc and consternation was so great that the French soldiers, without hesitation, poked their heads out of the trenches to watch the destruction, though the Germans were only 150 feet away.

way.

From the depths of this first-line trench, seventeen French sausage balloons and thirty observation aeroplanes could be observed, directing the French fire. These were constantly protected during their observation work by a squadron of smaller, faster aviators in the chase. It is in this section that all the American volunteer aviators on this front are assigned.

the American volunteer aviators on this front are assigned.

During the day only two German aviators appeared, seizing favorable moments to direct their machine guns at a French trench. The German flyers consistently refused to fight the French aviators who were constantly engaged in chasing them back to their own lines. Soldiers in the first line trenches said that nothing gave them greater confidence or a greater feeling of security during a oattle than the ability always to look up and see French sausages and aeroplanes hovering protectingly above, undisputed masters of the air.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

Forecast for District of Columbia and Maryland—Fair and warmer tonight: tomorrow warmer and partly cloudy; general to moderate shifting winds. For Virginia—Fair tonight; warmer in interior; tomorrow partly cloudy and warmer; general to moderate shifting winds.

TEMPERATURES. (U. S. Bureau.) TIDE TABLES.
(U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)
High tides. 8:37 a. m., height 2.5.
8:50 p. m., height 3.3.
Low tides. 2:45 a. m., height 0.5.
2:58 p. m., height 0.2.

Light automobile lamps at 6:04 p. m.

SIMPLE HOME TREATMENT FOR RUPTURE

free Trial and Demonstration the Metropolitan Hotel, Washington, D.C.

DOES AWAY WITH TRUSS

The PLAPAO-PADS are entirely different rom the article commercially known as a truss." In fact, they are designed to do way with bands of steel and rubber that hate and pinch. Their remarkable success a due to the principle of keeping constantly pplied the scientifically compounded aborbent-astringent medication called PLA-PAO. The purpose is to contract and trengthen the weakened abdominal muscles, hus closing the hernial opening as nature nuesdes to the trupture CAN'T come down. Being self-adhesive, and when adhering lossely to the body slipping or shifting is impossible, therefore they are an important adusant in retaining rupture that cannot be lead by a truss.

isset in retaining repture that cannot be sid by a truas.

Demonstrator Babcock, whose wide experince in this country and Europe makes him an authority on matters pertaining to the pplication of PLAPAO-PADS to any paricular rupture, will be at the Metropolitan Hotel, Washington, D. C., Saturday and Suniay, October 14 and 15 only. Hours 19 a. m. of p. m., and he will be pleased to give WITHOUT CHARGE, to all who call, expert device and trial for home treatment. Do not all to call on Mr. Babcock during his stay in the city.

112, Saw Two Invasions, French and Germans.

VIENNA, Oct. 12.-- A correspondent of the Zeit declares that while passing through Volhynia he discovered in the village of Karpilovka a peasant who recently had celebrated his 118th birthday.

The peasant claimed he distinctly remembered seeing Napoleon at the head of his army on the march to Moscow.

This was in 1812, when the present centenarian was a boy of nine. The man, the correspondent says, appeared to be in excellent health considering his years, although he had spent his entire life in the low, marshy country of northern

OPPOSING REMOVAL OF FEES ON CHECKS

Country banks in many sections of the United States are preparing to fight be permitted to make a charge for the collection of checks.

The question is an important one to the business man and to everyone who has much to do with settling accounts by check. Also it is important to bankers, and word is brought to Washington that the smaller banking concerns in particular are much wrought up over the recent order, which had the strong backing of the Federal Reserve Board, under which the Postoffice Department instructed the postmasters to collect checks at par, provided banks in the re-gion refused to do so and insisted on

gion refused to do so and insisted on making a charge.

The order relative to the postoffices handling checks has been held in abeyance lately because of the strong protest of country bankers. With the election near, it is not considered politics to enforce it. However, it is well understood that it will be enforced in the near future. Banks in the large centers are not opposing collection of checks at par. That is, they as a rule make no charge to their customers in the matter of handling checks. It has been shown that the actual expense of the operation is not great. Nevertheless, many of the smaller banks find a considerable revenue in making the charges they do for the collection of checks, and they are reluctant to give it the hecks, and they are reluctant to give

charges they do for the collection of checks, and they are rejuctant to give it up.

J. W. Boiton, president of the Lousiania Bankers' Association, who has been in the East lately, says that the utmost pressure will be brought by the country banks to retain the system of charging which has been in vogue. Opposition to the system of charging is made by business men, including merchants and others. However, the opposition is unorganized. It is declared by opponents of the system of charging that it is a tax on commerce. It is pointed out that New England banks for sixteen years have handled checks without charge, and have not suffered because of it.

Whatever the merits of the controversy, it is sure to be a live one the coming winter.

Brig. Gen. John H. Page Dead At West Point

H. Page, U. S. A., retired, has been received from West Point, at the home of his son-in-law, Capt. George W.

Infantry. Infantry.

General Page was a veteran of the civil and Indian wars. His early education was received in Italy and France, and at the beginning of the civil war he was a student in Northwestern University.

He enlisted in 1861 in the First Illinois Volunteer Light Artillery, and was discharged in October of that year to accept an appointment of second lieutenant in the Third Infantry in the regular army.

army.

He was a son of Captain Page, Fourth United States Infantry, who died in 1846 from wounds received in the battle of Palo Alio in the Mexican war.

CITIZENS DENY VICE IN S. WASHINGTON

Residents of That Section Take Issue With Statements of **Police Captain Williams**

(Continued from First Page.) southwest section is as moral as any other part of this city. I think the statements credited to the witnesses statements credited to the witnesses cast a grave reflection on the people of this community."
C. W. Thompson, president of the Jefferson School, and a leader in civic

of this community."

C. W. Thompson, president of the Jefferson School, and a leader in civic activities, said:

"I have been intimately associated with the southwest for some twenty years. I know the people and their children, and many of them have come under my supervision.

"I can but feel that a grave injustice has been done the southwest by the statements made before the Excise Board.

statements made before the Excise Board.

"However, if such a condition is known to exist here, more than elsewhere, why were not our two representative citizens' associations not apprised of such a condition and given a chance to aid in its abolishment?

"Why give such a statement to the public, why permit our little schoolboys and girls to read such a sentence about the nieghborhood in which they live and call home? I seriously doubt the existence of any such district?"

Teachers Give Statement.

Five teachers of the school signed statement which read as follows: "I have lived and taught in South Washington all my life, and am glad way been cognizant of any fact that would lead me to believe or suspicion the existance of any such district." This statement was signed by Eliza beth J. Riley, Margaret E. Garrett, Mary C. Johnson, Victoria V. Trook, and Jeanette Cohen.

Other teachers made individual statements. In one of these K. J. Outwater ments. In one of these K. J. Outwater says:

"It should be sufficient to say that such people as Dr. Charles H. Hammett, Dr. Ernest L. Smith. Dr. Theodore Judd. and Dr. Millard Thompson live in the southwest. Are these men the kind who would keep their family in such a district? The police department should make certain if conditions before attacking a questionable name to a district."

Dr. Louis Johnson, president of the South Washington Citizens Association, said:
"I know that such conditions do not exist. I drive all around this section, and the moral tone, I am prepared to say, is the equal of any section of the

B. F. Lindas, president of the South-rest Washington Citizens' Association,

west Washington Citizens' Association.
said:
"I not only live here, but I traverse
the southwest all the time. I have opportunity to see conditions in all parts
of the southwest, and I see no evidences of any such conditions.

W. A. H. Church said he was acquainted particularly well with the section from Seventh to Fourteenth streets southwest, and from B street to the

Most Orderly of City. "This is one of the most orderly sections in the city," he said. "I believe tions in the city." he said. "I believe we have fewer arrests and less disorder than in any other section."

Dr. Millard F. Thompson, of 484 Maryland avenue southwest, said: "If anyone will show me where such places exist, I'll do my best to help clean them out. I have watched conditions down here for thirty-three years, and they never were better. "If the police'know of any such conditions they ought to correct them. If not, such statements ought not to be

made to discredit a peaceable and or-derly section of Washington."

The Rev. Dr. John Briggs said:

"I have seen no evidences of any such

"I have seen no evidences of any such conditions."

R. H. Johnson today said:
"I am convinced such a charge is unwarranted and unfair. Conditions in our section are better than ever."

F. J. Campbell, of the Thompson School, also wrote a statement defending the southwest of charges of immorality, and said:

"If the police know of any particular part of the southwest that is in such a deplorable condition, let them specify that part and not cast reflections upon the whole section."

Captain Williams' Statement. Captain Williams, of the police precinct covering Southwest Washington. was one of the witnesses who described conditions in that section before the Excise Board. When asked today regarding his statements, he replied: "I can't recall now the exact words

used. The record will show that. "I reported conditions in the vicinity of Third street, between B and C were bad. When asked what caused the conditions. I said they existed on account of prostitution. Afterward I said there were many colored prostitutes in that neighborhood, and officers had been de-

neighborhood, and officers had been de-tailed there to watch them.

"Then I was asked whether the sa-loons had anything to do with it. I re-plied that prostitutes certainly did not go there, and that the men who came to see the women did not as a rule. They usually were well dressed, where-as the patrons of the particular saloon we were considering were from the poorer classes.

"There are many nice people in the southwest. I did not intend to reflect on the entire section. Bo far as the western part of the southwest is con-cerned, that is, west of Four-and-a-half street, no better section exists in the city.

city. A delegation of residents of the sec-tion, headed by Martin Wiegand, called on Captain Williams this afternoon to protest against his statement.

INTERIOR DEPT. HOME **CLUB STARTS SEASON**

The fourth season of the Home Club of the Interior Department was inaugurated last night with a reception to the members at the clubhouse, 14 Jackson

Secretary and Mrs. Lane were unable to attend because of the Secretary's duties with the Mexican Comission in in Atlantic City.

in Atlantic City.

In the receiving line were Van H.
Manning, chief of the Bureau of Mines
and vice president of the club, and Mrs.
Manning: Morris Blen, acting director
of the Reclamation Service and Mrs.
Bien; W. H. Herron, geographer of the
Geological Survey, and Mrs. Herron; V.
M. Bruce, assistant commissioner of the
General Land Office, and Mrs. Bruce;
E. B. Merritt, assistant commissioner of
the Indian Office, and Mrs. Merritt;
James J. Cotter, assistant superintendent
of the national parks, and Mrs. Cotter,
and F. W. Clay and Mrs. Clay.

Georgetown Club Girls Are to Vote on a Name sale.

The club of girls at the Georgetown playgrounds searching for a name for their club have selected one.

The selection will not be revealed until he meeting Saturday morning, when hey will vote on all names suggested. the meeting satural, they will vote on all names suggested. The club is composed of girls from eight to ten years of age, who desire to learn cooking, sewing, crocheting, embroidering, and other domestic science combroling.

Elks Hold Initiation.

Washington Lodge, No. 15, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, initiated ten new members at a meeting at Elks. Home leat night. They are Michael F. Green, Daniel A. O'Consor, Maurice Narelscenfeld, S. T. Schwartz, Jacob Wolfheimer, John Syse, W. R. Wilcox, Joseph Heilley, Frederick Mertins, Jr., and Sydney B. Lust. Announcement was made of a "grand old time" social hour November 1.



The Munsey Trust Company

Main Office: Munsey Building

Branch Office: 15th and H Sts.N.W

ON DAILY BALANCES

2% Interest on Checking Accounts

3% Interest on Ordinary Savings Accounts

4% Interest on Special Savings Accounts

There are two basic things for a depositor to consider—and especially for the savings bank depositor to consider. First, absolute safety for his money, and second, the measure of interest his money can be made to earn him. Beside these two things nothing else counts very much.

> FRANK A. MUNSEY, President.

Hours

Another Brush and Mirror

LAST SALE

THIS SALE

Next February

The first of these periodical sales of brushes and mirrors occurred in October, five years ago, when a contract was made with the leading makers to periodically distribute all their surplus production. The first sale resulted in the distribution of more than 2,000 of these brushes and mirrors. Each succeeding sale greater numbers -in two instances the supply did not equal the demand. Tomorrow morning 5,000 will be here to select from. Worthy of note-the leading makers of England, as well as in the United States, will be represented with brushes. The mirrors are all Amer-



BRUSHES 39c **GUARANTEED**

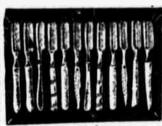
MIRRORS



EVERY BRUSH AND MIRROR WARRANTED

Barbers know the merits of Brushes with bristles that will-withstand wear and tear, and every one needs a brush that will massage the scalp. Good Tooth Brushes, Nail Brushes, Clothes Brushes are also scarce enough, even at full price. Tomorrow's sale will exceed the past famous sales, because thousands have been educated.

Note that the smallest mirror is wider than the width of three Times columns. Note, too, that the beveled French plate glass is without tiniest speck or flaw. Remember that 3,211 of such mirrors were distributed during a late memorable



Guaranteed Tooth Brushes

-Also Nail Brushes and Whisk Brooms

Perfect bristles-a new brush for any that fails to give satisfaction. Regular patrons know-they secure supplies for the entire family.

COUPON

Palm Olive Soap This P. R. Coupon and 15c entitles bearer to three 10c cakes.

der, b

COUPON

Absorbent Cotton -This P. R. Coupon and 10c entitles bearer to three 5c packages. Tomor-Tomorrow

COUPON

Ammonia — This P. R. Coupon and 9c entitles bearer to one 15c bottle. Tomorrow - Friday

COUPON

Wash Cloths-This P. R. Coupon and 5c entitles bearer to three 5c cloths. Tomorrow-Friday

iday only.	row-	Friday only.	only.	only.	
Professional Cold a, jar Pond's Vanishing a, jar Palm Olive Vanishing b, jar jar Peroxide Witchazel Cream, Florasweet Talcum, Squibb's Talcum Babcock's Talcum er, box Williams' Talcum er, box Mozart Talcum Pow- box Mozart Talcum Pow- box Mozart Talcum Pow- box Mozart Talcum Pow- box Powder	17c 17c 35c 17c 15c 15c 15c 11c 11c 11c	25c Odo-Ro-No ant), bottle 25c box Oxzyn	17c 17c 17c 17c 17c 15c 15c 6c 6c 6c 6c 6c 12c and Surakes 11c akes Facial 16c 16c	50c Lavoris Chloride Ant septic 25c bar floating Castile Soap, bar	14c 17c 31c 16c 25c 19c

Automobile Display!

The Washington Times

For September, 1914, 8,998 Lines For September, 1915, 9,755 Lines For September, 1916, 34,242 Lines

A Gain Over 1915 of

Automobile dealers and agents find the colums of

The Saturday Evening Times

particularly productive of results-there is an automobile atmosphere that puts The Times' readers in the buying mood.